H. RES. 274, CONCERNING BURMA AND THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY; H. CON. RES. 91, EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE EXPO '98 IN LISBON, PORTUGAL; AND H.R. 2775, A BILL TO EXTEND PUBLIC LAW 480 AUTHORITIES

Y 4. IN 8/16: B 89

H. Hes. 274, Concerning Burma and t...

MARKUP

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

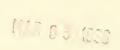
ONE HUNDRED FOURTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

DECEMBER 14, 1995

Printed for the use of the Committee on International Relations





U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

22-127 CC

WASHINGTON: 1996



H. RES. 274, CONCERNING BURMA AND THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY; H. CON. RES. 91, EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE EXPO '98 IN LISBON, PORTUGAL; AND H.R. 2775, A BILL TO EXTEND PUBLIC LAW 480 AUTHORITIES

Y 4. IN 8/16: B 89

H. Hes. 274, Concerning Burna and t...

MARKUP

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

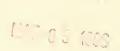
ONE HUNDRED FOURTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

DECEMBER 14, 1995

Printed for the use of the Committee on International Relations





U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

22-127 CC

WASHINGTON: 1996

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

BENJAMIN A. GILMAN, New York, Chairman

WILLIAM F. GOODLING, Pennsylvania JAMES A. LEACH, Iowa TOBY ROTH, Wisconsin HENRY J. HYDE, Illinois DOUG BEREUTER, Nebraska CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH. New Jersey DAN BURTON, Indiana JAN MEYERS, Kansas ELTON GALLEGLY, California ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, Florida CASS BALLENGER, North Carolina DANA ROHRABACHER, California DONALD A. MANZULLO, Illinois EDWARD R. ROYCE, California PETER T. KING, New York JAY KIM, California SAM BROWNBACK, Kansas DAVID FUNDERBURK, North Carolina STEVEN J. CHABOT, Ohio MARSHALL "MARK" SANFORD, South Carolina MATT SALMON, Arizona

AMO HOUGHTON, New York

LEE H. HAMILTON, Indiana SAM GEJDENSON, Connecticut TOM LANTOS, California ROBERT G. TORRICELLI, New Jersey HOWARD L. BERMAN, California GARY L. ACKERMAN, New York HARRY JOHNSTON, Florida ELIOT L. ENGEL, New York ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA, American Samoa MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ, California DONALD M. PAYNE, New Jersey ROBERT E. ANDREWS, New Jersey ROBERT MENENDEZ, New Jersey SHERROD BROWN, Ohio CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY, Georgia ALCEE L. HASTINGS, Florida ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN, Maryland MICHAEL R. MCNULTY, New York JAMES P. MORAN, Virginia VICTOR O. FRAZER, Virgin Islands (Ind.)

RICHARD J. GARON, Chief of Staff
MICHAEL H. VAN DUSEN, Democratic Chief of Staff
PAUL BERKOWITZ, Republican Professional Staff Member
MARK KIRK, Counsel
FRANK RECORD, Republican Professional Staff Member
TRACY E. HART, Staff Associate

CONTENTS

	Page
Markup of H. Res. 274, Concerning Burma and the United Nations General Assembly; H.Con.Res. 91, Expressing the Sense of the Congress that the United States Should Participate in the Expo '98 in Lisbon, Portugal; and H.R. 2775, A Bill to Extend Public Law 480 Authorities	1
APPENDIX	
Statement of the Honorable Robert Menendez	11
H. Res. 274, Concerning Burma and the United Nations General Assembly, and the subcommittee amendment	12
H. Con. Res. 91, Expressing the Sense of the Congress that the United	
States Should Participate in Expo '98 in Lisbon, Portugal	18
H.R. 2775, A Bill to Extend Public Law 480 Authorities	20
Letters to Chairman Gilman and the Honorable Lee Hamilton from the	
Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Agency for International Develop-	
ment	23



MARKUP OF H. RES. 274, CONCERNING BURMA AND THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY; H. CON. RES. 91, EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE EXPO '98 IN LISBON, PORTUGAL; AND H.R. 2775, A BILL TO EXTEND PUBLIC LAW 480 AUTHORITIES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1995

House of Representatives, Committee on International Relations, Washington, DC.

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:10 a.m. in room 2172, Rayburn House Office Building, The Honorable Benjamin A. Gilman, chairman, presiding.

Chairman GILMAN. The committee will come to order.

The Committee on International Relations meets today in open session, pursuant to notice, to act on several business items. It is the Chair's expectation that motions will be made to recommend

that these matters be handled on the suspension calendar.

We will handle the following items: H. Res. 274 relating to Burma, H. Con. Res. 91 relating to Expo '98 in Lisbon, and H.R. 2775 relating to certain food aid programs. We hope to take up legislation on the au pair program, which we had noticed for today, tomorrow. Subcommittee consideration of that bill has been delayed. Chairman Smith had trouble getting in on time because of the weather.

I would turn to the ranking Democratic member, Mr. Hamilton, to see if he has remarks at this time. If not, we will now turn to the first item, H. Res. 274, concerning Burma and the U.N. Gen-

eral Assembly.

This first resolution relates to Burma and the United Nations and was introduced on November 17, 1995, and considered and approved, with an amendment, by the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific on December 6. The Chair lays the resolution before the committee. The clerk will report the title of the resolution.

The CLERK. House Resolution 274 Concerning Burma and the

U.N. General Assembly.

Chairman GILMAN. The clerk will read the resolution for amendment.

The CLERK. Whereas the military government of Burma, as a

member of the United Nations—

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, the amendment recommended by the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific will be considered as having been adopted. The resolution and its preamble will be considered as having been read and as original text for the purpose of amendment. The resolution is now open to amendment at any point.

[The resolution appears in the Appendix.]

Chairman GILMAN. The Chair would first thank the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Bereuter, chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, for his prompt consideration of this matter in the subcommittee. The Chair recognizes the gentleman to present his resolution.

Mr. Bereuter.

Mr. BEREUTER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I commend you for your initiative on the Burma resolution. The resolution the committee is marking up today is both important

and timely.

Recent developments have heightened tension in Burma. Burma's democratic opposition leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, recently announced that she and her party, the NLD, would boycott the national constitutional convention organized by Burma's military leaders, the SLORC. SLORC responded by expelling the NLD from the convention, thus foreclosing any chance for dialog between the government and the opposition. Without dialog between the democratic opposition and the SLORC, prospects for democracy and stability in Burma are bleak.

I commend the distinguished gentleman from New York, Chairman Gilman, for his tireless efforts at promoting democracy in Burma and specifically for his initiative in drafting this resolution.

H. Res. 274 addresses the human rights and narcotics problems in Burma in a constructive way. This member hopes that Burma's generals understand that the Congress of the United States wants to promote cooperative ties between our two countries, but that would only be possible if they take effective action to expand human rights and democracy in Burma and to clamp down on Burma's massive opium production.

The Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific unanimously approved H. Res. 274 on December 6. We adopted some technical changes which were recommended by the State Department, and I understand the administration has no problems with the resolution as amended. I urge all my colleagues on the committee to support H.

Res. 274 as amended.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Chairman GILMAN. Thank you.

Mr. Hamilton.

Mr. Hamilton. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I commend you and the subcommittee chairman for bringing forward H. Res. 274. It is a timely statement of our opposition to the repressive regime that now is in power in Burma.

It is important that this Congress, and this committee particularly, speak out from time to time on these gross violations of

human rights and denial of political freedom. We ought never to turn a blind eye toward those events.

This is a ruthless military regime that now governs in Burma, and it doesn't have any understanding at all of the fundamental

concepts of freedom, liberty, and individual rights.

I think the resolution is very well done. I am pleased to see that it strongly supports a vigorous attack on the problems of drug trafficking, and I commend the chairman and the subcommittee chairman for their initiative. I urge members to support the resolution.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you.

Any other members seeking—Mr. Rohrabacher. Mr. ROHRABACHER. I would like to congratulate the chairman and Mr. Bereuter for proposing this resolution.

In 1988.—

Chairman GILMAN. Would you get closer to the mike.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Thank you—especially when I am congratulating the chairman of course.

Chairman GILMAN. You can repeat that if you would like.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. In 1988 I visited that part of the world and actually trekked into the jungles of Burma and met with the students that were leading the democracy movement, or had been leading the democracy movement in Burma, but who at that time were setting up jungle encampments in order to establish the first armed resistance by the Burmese people to their own government.

Ethnic groups had been fighting the Burmese Government for a number of years, but the Burmese people themselves had not been

involved with armed resistance.

These young people were living in the most wretched of conditions. They literally put parts of the jungle together for shelter at night. What impressed me was the fact that these young people, many of whom could speak English, told me what they wanted was to have a country like the United States, and here you had the most courageous young people I had ever met in my life talking about how they really believed in the ideals of Thomas Jefferson and they wanted a government like Thomas Jefferson for America for themselves.

I knew when I was talking to them that a large number of the young people I was talking to, 800 kids in the middle of the jungle, that a large number of those would not survive over a couple of years, and that has been the case. Many have been captured and tortured, others killed in battle, other stepped on land mines. The Burmese way of repression is, you take these people and make them porters and make them walk through mine fields in front of the troops, carrying all the equipment of the troops, so that if anyone gets hurt it is them. This has been the fate of those young he-

I couldn't help but think that years ago that during the American Revolution there must have been young people that were so

dedicated in our cause.

So today as we pass H. Res. 274, we remember these idealistic young people who want a country like the United States and are letting them know they will hear about this resolution, those who have survived, that they will know that we are on their side, on the side of democracy.

Mr. BEREUTER. Would the gentleman yield?

I thank the gentleman for yielding and for his moving description

of what he had seen there.

When I was in Angola visiting an outdoor classroom of sixth graders, they were speaking about Thomas Jefferson as if he were alive today, and his ideals were indeed very much alive for those young people. Sometimes we forget about the impact of democracy and our forefathers on their ideals and their patriotism today.

I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Thank you very much.

Chairman GILMAN. I want to thank Mr. Rohrabacher for his in-

sight.

I would like to commend members of our committee who reach out and go to these distant places to take a firsthand look at these problems. I know that, for example, Mr. Rohrabacher indicated his trips to Burma, but I know he always also goes to other parts of Southeast Asia.

Mr. King has recently gone to Ireland; Mr. Houghton has gone to South Africa; Mr. Bereuter just came back from Bosnia. I think

that this is so essential for members of our committee.

I remember distinctly Mr. Frelinghuyser of New Jersey, a former member of this committee, reminding our committee that despite the criticisms from the press for traveling, that our committee, above all others, is responsible for getting to far and distant places to make certain that we see firsthand what the problems are, to make certain the billions of dollars we spend overseas are being properly expended.

Are there other members who seek recognition on this measure? I would like to take a few moments just to comment that last week Aung San Suu Kyi announced that her party, the National League for Democracy, would no longer participate in SLORC's sham constitutional convention. Aung San Suu Kyi rightly pointed out that her nation could never be expected to accept a constitution that was forced upon the convention participants by the military.

It is good to learn that our representatives at the United Nations refused this week to cosponsor a U.N. human rights resolution on Burma because it did not refer to the withdrawal and subsequent expulsion from the national convention of delegates from Suu Kyi's

party.

SLORC demands that the constitution stipulate a leading role for the military in Burma's political process and excludes anyone married to a foreigner from assuming the office of the president. Suu Kyi is married to an Oxford professor. SLORC claims her decision to boycott the convention is confrontation politics.

Suu Kyi was right to point out that what they have termed confrontational is that we have asked for dialog, she said, which we want in order to prevent confrontation. To silence the views of people whose opinions are different by putting them in prison is far

more confrontational, she stated.

I am deeply concerned that a senior official of the SLORC, in response to Suu Kyi's statement, called Suu Kyi a traitor who should be annihilated. That sort of remark should not be taken lightly by this committee. Our Nation has very serious reasons to be concerned about what occurs in Burma and to Suu Kyi. High on our

priorities is the illicit drug production that has had a devastating

impact on many of our cities and families and schools.

In 1948 when Burma became independent, the annual production of opium was 30 tons. Burma was then a democracy and exported rice to its neighbors and to the world and enjoyed a free market system and was known as the rice bowl of Asia.

Today Burma is one of the poorest nations in the world. Its opium production has increased some 8,000 percent to about 2,575

tons, according to the 1993 figures.

What is the reason for this massive increase? Bertil Littner, the Burma reporter for the Far East Economic Review, states in his book, "Burma in Revolt," that Burmese drug production is a consequence of the inability of successive governments in Rangoon to come to terms with the country's ethnic minorities and refusal of post-1962 military-dominated regimes to permit an open, pluralistic society.

Regrettably, some U.S. officials have taken the position that the human rights problem must be kept separate from the drug problem in Burma. What these officials have failed to recognize is that the human rights problem is directly linked to the drug production.

As Bertil Littner points out, the majority of the opium grown in Burma is grown so that ethnic minorities can protect themselves. While their leaders are not angels, it is very difficult to grow anything else in those regions, and they need the money for arms. Until they feel confident that a representative form of government is established in Rangoon, they will continue to grow opium just at they have for the past 40 years.

A democratic Burma led by Suu Kyi and the other members of Parliament (elected and thrown into prison in 1990) can help us resolve the Burmese drug production problem that is spiraling out of control, and threatening Suu Kyi and her democratic followers. Ac-

cordingly, I urge my colleagues to fully support H. Res. 274.

Are there any comments or amendments?

If there are no further comments and no amendments, Mr. Be-

reuter is recognized to offer a motion.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman, I move that the chairman or his designee be requested to obtain consideration of the resolution, as amended, on the House floor on the suspension calendar.

Chairman GILMAN. The question is on the motion. All those in

favor, say aye; Opposed, no.

The ayes appear to have it. The ayes have it, and the motion is agreed to. Further proceedings on the matter are postponed.

Chairman GILMAN, We now turn to H. Con. Res. 91.

This resolution relates to the United States participation in Expo '98 in Lisbon, Portugal. It was introduced August 2, 1995, by the gentleman from California, Mr. Pombo, and has been cosponsored by additional members, including the ranking Democratic member, Mr. Hamilton, and myself

The Chair lays the concurrent resolution before the committee.

The clerk will report the title of the resolution.

The CLERK. House Concurrent Resolution 91, Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should participate in Expo '98 in Lisbon, Portugal.

Chairman GILMAN. The clerk will read the resolution for amendment.

The CLERK. Whereas there was international concern expressed at the Rio conference of 1992 about conservation of the seas—

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, the concurrent resolution and its preamble will be considered as having been read and are now open to amendment at any point.

[The concurrent resolution appears in the Appendix.]

Chairman GILMAN. Are there any amendments?

Are there any comments?

If there are no amendments or further speakers—Mr. Hamilton. Mr. HAMILTON. Let me just say I of course support the resolution. It will be an important cultural and economic exchange between Portugal and the United States.

Portugal, of course, is a great friend and trading partner of the United States, and we have a large number of Portuguese Ameri-

cans in this country, I think about 2 million.

The theme of the conference is going to be on the health of oceans, and I also commend that. I want to register, however, a single concern about it, although I intend to support the resolution.

The resolved clause says that the United States should fully participate in Expo '98 in Lisbon. I hope that phrase does not carry with it the connotation that we are going to finance it, and I also hope that funding for U.S. participants will come exclusively from the private sector.

So I commend the resolution, I support it, but I do express that

hope that it can be privately financed.

Chairman GILMAN. Mr. Hamilton, thank you for your comments. The enactment of this resolution will not require any funding for U.S. participation in the World Fair Exposition. It will be handled

by the private sector.

This resolution expresses a sense of the Congress that the United States should participate in Expo '98 in Lisbon. The theme of the exposition is the oceans, a heritage for the future, and will commemorate both the 500th anniversary of Vasco de Gama's historic voyage of discovery over the sea route to India and the International Year of the Ocean in 1998. We hope that all of our colleagues will agree, the world oceans represent a physical and cultural asset for mankind.

Portugal's history has been shaped by its maritime legacy, as has our own, and in calling for participation, as I noted, the resolution does make it clear the private sector should provide the means for

participation.

Are there any other amendments or further comments?

If not, Mr. Bereuter.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman, I move that the chairman or his designee be requested to obtain consideration of the concurrent resolution on the House floor on the suspension calendar or by unanimous consent.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you.

The question is on the motion. All those in favor, say aye; Op-

posed, no.

The ayes appear to have it. The ayes have it, and the motion is agreed to. Further proceedings on the matter are postponed.

Chairman GILMAN. The Chair would indicate that if the House passes H. Con. Res. 91, it is my intention to ask unanimous consent that the House discharge the committee from further consideration of the companion measure, S. Con. 22, and pass it.

Chairman GILMAN. We will now turn to H.R. 2775, relating to certain food aid authorities which will expire at the end of this

I have introduced H.R. 2775 yesterday along with the ranking Democratic member, Mr. Hamilton, and the vice chairman of the committee, Mr. Bereuter.

The Chair lays the bill before the committee. The clerk will re-

port the title of the bill.

The CLERK. H.R. 2775, a bill to amend the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954, the Food for Progress Act of 1985, and the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990, to extend the authorities under those Acts.

Chairman GILMAN. The clerk will read the bill for amendment. The CLERK. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, Sec-

Chairman GILMAN. Without objection, the bill will be considered as having been read and is now open for amendment at any point.

[The bill appears in the Appendix.]

Chairman GILMAN. As members of the committee are aware. I have been involved with many of our colleagues in working long and hard on the issue of world hunger, and key government initiatives such as the Food for Peace and Food for Progress are the cor-

nerstones of our efforts to try to wipe out hunger.

Recently the Department of Agriculture and the Agency for International Development approached the Congress asking the International Relations Committee and the Agriculture Committee to extend the authorities of Public Law 480, Food for Progress, and agricultural exports to emerging democracy programs which are scheduled to expire at the end of this year.

While a new farm bill would be a preferred way of extending the life of these programs, it is becoming clear that will not be possible

during this session of the Congress.

I have been working with our House Agriculture chairman, Mr. Roberts, and Rep. Emerson along with the Senate Agriculture Committee chairman, Senator Lugar, to preserve these programs while a new farm bill is being finalized.

In short, the bill protects the authorities for programs that directly save lives. One example will illustrate this point. One-third of all Bosnians depend on these programs for food. I think we can all agree that keeping the food flowing to Bosnia is a key part of

our peaceful efforts in that region of the world.

Specifically, this bill would extend for 1 year the authority of the Title II minimum tonnage requirements, the Food Consultative Group, the Food for Progress Act, and the authorities for agricultural exports to emerging democracies under the 1990 farm bill. This bill is needed to keep these lifesaving programs going while a new farm bill is being completed.

I understand this bill was requested by the administration, strongly supported in the Senate, and with that support we will work with Chairman Roberts to win swift passage of the bill in the House.

Mr. Hamilton, do you have any comments?

Mr. HAMILTON. I do.

I want to express my thanks to you for proceeding with this markup this morning for a 1-year extension of these important programs. I certainly support it, and I commend you for your leader-

ship on it.

Like you, I think the preferable way to deal with this would be a full authorization of the agricultural programs, and, like you, I would urge that the House leadership make those a priority. I think there really is a very strong bipartisan consensus in support of these programs. They represent a very important, even vital, part of our assistance, and I strongly support the extension.

Chairman GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Hamilton.

Mr. Bereuter seeks recognition.

Mr. BEREUTER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for holding this important and timely markup as the committee continues its joint responsibilities with the Agriculture Committee in drafting the trade

and food aid titles to the 1995 Farm Bill.

Mr. Chairman, as an original cosponsor of this legislation, let me commend you for moving expeditiously to avoid a lapse in authority for the important Public Law 480 Food for Peace Program. It is important that both the Agency for International Development and the United States Department of Agriculture have the required authority to run this program as usual.

Because our work with the Agriculture Committee on the farm bill is not complete, as mentioned, a simple 1-year authorization extension of certain prices of the Public Law 480 Food for Peace Program—which is celebrating its 40th anniversary—is necessary.

Over the years, this program has provided more than \$50 billion in food and agricultural commodity assistance to the world's most deserving people. Last year the United States provided over 5.1 million metric tons of commodities to the world's most needy. I urge my colleagues to support it.

Thank you.

Chairman GILMAN. Are there further comments or amendments? If there are no amendments and further speakers, Mr. Bereuter

is recognized to offer a motion.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman, I move that the chairman or his designee be requested to obtain consideration of the pending measure, as amended, on the House floor on the suspension calendar.

Chairman GILMAN. The question is now on the motion. All those

in favor, say aye; Opposed, no.

The ayes appear to have it. The ayes have it, and the motion is

agreed to.

Without objection, the Chair is directed by the committee to take the necessary actions to go to conference, pursuant to Rule XX, of the bill, H.R. 2775, or a similar Senate measure.

Further proceedings on this matter are postponed.

Without objection, the record will remain open for statements on all measures considered today.

The business meeting of the committee is adjourned.

Let me remind our members that we are about to conduct a hearing on trade following this meeting. I thank our members for attending. Thank you.

[Whereupon, at 10:37 a.m., the committee was adjourned subject to the call of the Chair.]



APPENDIX

The Honorable Robert Menendez Committee on International Relations December 14, 1995

Support for H.Con.Res. 91 U.S. Participation in Expo '98

Mr. Chairman, as a Member of the Portuguese-American Caucus and as a original co-sponsor of this resolution, I would like to express my strong support and urge its unanimous passage. This resolution is one at the forefront of the efforts of the portuguese-American Caucus.

U.S support for and participation in Expo '98 in Lisbon will send an important message of support to the Portuguese-American community in the United States and in my district. This resolution also will send our message of committed support to the Government of Portugal for continued economic and social ties between our nations.

In my district, I have witnessed first-hand the hardwork of the Portuguese community. They have revitalized the struggling urban areas of Newark and Elizabeth. In Newark's North Ward, you can not walk more than a few feet without seeing a Portuguese restaurant, bakery or retailer. In New Jersey, the contribuitions of the Portuguese-Americans to their communities can not be underscored.

The exposition will coincide with 500th Anniversary of Vasco da Gama's historic voyage from Portugal, around the Cape of Good Hope to India.

1998 has been declared the "International Year of the Ocean" by the United Nations in an effort to alert the world to the need for the environemental preservation and the physical and cultural assets offered by the world's ocean. Expo '98 is appropriately named "The Oceans, a Heritage for the Future." A title that Vasco de Gama certainly would have agreed with.

The United States should give Portugal and Expo' 98 the priority status they deserve in terms of our commercial efforts abroad. Our two great nations have an increasing opportunity to work together to strengthen our economic and cultural ties.

The United States should send an exhibition to Expo '98. Our participation in Expo '98 is important to the Portuguese-American community and to our growing relationship with Portugal.

104TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. RES. 274

Concerning Burma and the United Nations General Assembly.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 17, 1995

Mr. Gilman (for himself, Mr. Bereuter, Mr. Smith of New Jersey, and Mr. Berman) introduced the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Concerning Burma and the United Nations General Assembly.

- Whereas the military government of Burma, as a member of the United Nations, is obligated to uphold the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and all other international human rights standards and conventions to which it is a signatory;
- Whereas the ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council (hereinafter referred to as the "SLORC") in Burma has refused to recognize the results of the May 1990 elections, which the National League for Democracy, led by Aung San Suu Kyi, won by a landslide;
- Whereas the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in March 1995 unanimously condemned the SLORC's re-

fusal to "take all necessary steps towards democracy in light of those elections";

Whereas the United Nations Commission on Human Rights also expressed grave concern about violations of fundamental human rights in Burma, including torture, summary and arbitrary executions, massive use of forced labor including forced portering for the military, abuse of women, political arrests and detentions, restrictions on freedom of expression and association, and oppressive measures directed at ethnic and religious minorities;

Whereas the United Nations Commission on Human Rights noted that most of the 1990 democratically elected representatives have been excluded from the SLORC's "National Convention" and concluded that the convention does not "appear to constitute the necessary step towards the restoration of democracy,";

Whereas Burma continues to be one of the world's leading sites of narcotics production and trafficking and, according to the United States State Department, production of heroin nearly tripled in Burma since the SLORC took power in a violent coup in 1988;

Whereas, according to the State Department's International Narcotics Control Strategy Report of March 1995, the SLORC's antinarcotics efforts last year "fell far short of the measures necessary to make serious progress against the drug trade," and in addition, the SLORC's lack of control over heroin-producing areas is due to the SLORC's allowing "wide-ranging, local autonomy (to ethnic armies) in exchange for halting their active insurgencies against Rangoon";

- Whereas the peace agreements signed by the SLORC with ethnic insurgencies since 1989 were supposed to lead to both a decrease in opium production and economic development, but according to the State Department's report, "neither development nor a reduction in opium cultivation has occurred";
- Whereas in 1948 when Burma became independent, the annual production of opium was 30 tons, Burma was then a democracy, it exported rice to its neighbors and the world, and it enjoyed a free-market system;
- Whereas today Burma is one of the poorest nations in the world and its opium production has increased some 8,000 percent to about 2,575 tons (1992–1993);
- Whereas the drug production increase is the consequence in large degree of the inability of the successive military governments in Rangoon to come to terms with the country's ethnic minorities and the refusal of post-1962 military-dominated regimes to permit an open pluralistic society;
- Whereas it is primarily through a democratically elected civilian government in Burma, supported by the Burmese people including the ethnic minorities, that Burma can make significant progress in controlling narcotics production and trafficking;
- Whereas on July 10, 1995, the SLORC responded to international pressure, including 5 resolutions by the United Nations General Assembly, by releasing Aung San Suu Kyi, who had been held under house arrest for 6 years;
- Whereas 16 elected Members of Parliament remain in detention in Burma, along with thousands of other political prisoners, according to Human Rights Wateh/Asia, Am-

4

nesty International, and other human rights monitoring groups;

Whereas in July 1995 the International Committee of the Red Cross (hereinafter referred to as the "ICRC") closed its office in Burma due to the SLORC's refusal to agree to allow the ICRC confidential regular access to prisoners;

Whereas the United States ambassador to the United Nations visited Burma in September 1995, met with Aung San Suu Kyi, and also met with leaders of the SLORC and urged them to "choose the path" of "democracy, rather than continued repression and dictatorial control," and declared that "fundamental change in the United States policy towards Burma would depend on fundamental change in the SLORC's treatment of the Burmese people; and

Whereas the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Burma, Professor Yozo Yokota, visited the country in October 1995 and will deliver a preliminary report of his findings to the current session of the United Nations General Assembly: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 Resolved, That the House of Representatives calls
- 2 on—
- 3 (1) the Burmese Government to immediately
- 4 begin a political dialogue with Aung San Suu Kyi,
- 5 other democratic leaders, and representatives of the
- 6 ethnic minorities to release immediately and uncon-
- 7 ditionally detained Members of Parliament and other
- 8 political prisoners, to repeal repressive laws which

7 8

prohibit freedom of association and expression and the right of citizens to participate freely in the political life of their country, to resume negotiations with the International Committee of the Red Cross on aceess to prisoners, and help control the massive flow of heroin from Burma; and

(2) the President, the Secretary of State, and the United States ambassador to the United Nations to actively support and promote a resolution at the upcoming session of the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly reiterating the grave concerns of the international community and ealling on the SLORC to take concrete, significant steps to fulfill its obligations to guarantee respect to basic human rights and to restore civilian, democratic rule to the people of Burma.

AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 274

OFFERED BY MR. BEREUTER
[adopted in Subcommittee]

In the sixth clause of preamble-

- (1) strike "heroin" and insert "opium"; and
- (2) strike "tripled" and insert "doubled".

In the seventh clause of the preamble, strike the quotation mark each place it appears.

Page 5, line 10, strike "upcoming" and insert "current".

Page 5, line 10, strike "the Third Committee of".

104TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 91

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should participate in Expo '98 in Lisbon, Portugal.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

August 2, 1995

Mr. Pombo (for himself, Mr. Kennedy of Rhode Island, Mr. Stark, Mr. Frank of Massachusetts, Mr. Abercrombie, Mr. Bilbray, Mr. Meehan, Mr. Reed, Mr. Moakley, Mr. Torricelli, Mr. Menendez, Mr. Pallone, Mr. Zimmer, Mr. Martini, and Mr. Kennedy of Massachusetts) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

- Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should participate in Expo '98 in Lisbon, Portugal.
- Whereas there was international concern expressed at the Rio Conference of 1992 about conservation of the seas;
- Whereas 1998 has been declared the "International Year of the Ocean" by the United Nations in an effort to alert the world to the need for improving the physical and cultural assets offered by the world's oceans;
- Whereas the theme of Expo '98 is "The Oceans, a Heritage for the Future";

- Whereas Expo '98 has a fundamental aim of alerting political, economic, and public opinion to the growing importance of the world's oceans;
- Whereas Portugal has established a vast network of relationships through ocean exploration;
- Whereas Portugal's history is rich with examples of the courage and exploits of Portuguese explorers;
- Whereas Portugal and the United States have a relationship based on mutual respect, and a sharing of interests and ideals, particularly the deeply held commitment to democratic values;
- Whereas today over 2,000,000 Americans can trace their ancestry to Portugal; and
- Whereas the United States and Portugal agreed in the 1995
 Agreement on Cooperation and Defense that in 1998 the
 2 countries would consider and develop appropriate
 means of commemorating the upcoming quincentennial
 anniversary of the historic voyage of discovery by Vasco
 da Gama: Now, therefore, be it
 - 1 Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate
 - 2 concurring), That the United States should fully partici-
 - 3 pate in Expo '98 in Lisbon, Portugal, and encourage the
 - 4 private sector to support this worthwhile undertaking.

104TH CONGRESS 18T SESSION

1

7

H.R. 2775

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

for himself and Mr. Hamilton and Bereuter Mr. GILMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on ____

A BILL

To amend the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954, the Food for Progress Act of 1985, and the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to extend the authorities under those Acts.

- Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, 3 SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITIES UNDER PUBLIC 4 LAW 480. 5 (a) Levels of Assistance for Title II.— 6 ASSISTANCE.—Section (1)MINIMUM
- 8 and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C.

204(a)(1)(E) of the Agricultural Trade Development

- 1 1724(a)(1)(E)) is amended by striking "for fiscal
- 2 year 1995" and inserting "for each of the fiscal
- 3 years 1995 and 1996".
- 4 (2) MINIMUM NON-EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.—
- 5 Section 204(a)(2)(E) of such Act (7 U.S.C.
- 6 1724(a)(2)(E)) is amended by striking "for fiscal
- 7 year 1995" and inserting "for each of the fiscal
- 8 years 1995 and 1996".
- 9 (b) FOOD AID CONSULTATIVE GROUT.—Section
- 10 205(f) of such Act (7 U.S.C. 1725(f)) is amended by strik-
- 11 ing "1995" and inserting "1996".
- 12 (c) EXPIRATION DATE FOR ASSISTANCE.—Section
- 13 408 of such Act (7 U.S.C. 1736b) is amended by striking
- 14 "1995" and inserting "1996".
- 15 SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITIES UNDER THE FOOD
- 16 FOR PROGRESS ACT OF 1985.
- 17 (a) EFFECTIVE AND TERMINATION DATES.—Section
- 18 1110 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (known as the
- 19 "Food for Progress Act of 1985"; 7 U.S.C. 1736o) is
- 20 amended in subsection (k) by striking "1995" and insert-
- 21 ing "1996".
- 22 (b) ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE IN ADMINISTRATION
- 23 OF FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.—Section 1110 of such
- 24 Act (7 U.S.C. 1736o) is amended in subsection (l)(1) by
- 25 striking "1995" and inserting "1996".

1	SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITIES FOR AGRICULTURAL
2	EXPORTS TO EMERGING DEMOCRACIES
3	UNDER THE FOOD, AGRICULTURE, CON-
4	SERVATION, AND TRADE ACT OF 1990.
5	Section 1542(a) of the Food, Agriculture, Conserva-
6	tion, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5622 note) is
7	amended by striking "1995" and inserting "1996".



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

December : 1 1995

Honorable Benjamin A. Gilman Chairman Committee on International Relations U.S. House of Representatives 2170 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515-6128

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Department of Agriculture supports the extension of authority for food assistance programs authorized by the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 and the Food for Progress Act of 1985.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

I have sent a similar letter to Ranking Member Lee Hamilton.

Secretary

cc: Pat Roberts, Chairman, Committee on Agriculture E (Kika) de la Garza, Ranking Member, Committee on Agriculture

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250 December 1 3 1995

Honorable Lee H. Hamilton Ranking Member Committee on International Relations U.S. House of Representatives 2170 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515-6128

Dear Lee:

The Department of Agriculture supports the extension of authority for food assistance programs authorized by the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 and the Food for Progress Act of 1985.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

I have sent a similar letter to Chairman Benjamin Gilman.

DAN GLICKMAN

cc: Pat Roberts, Chairman, Committee on Agriculture E (Kika) de la Garza, Ranking Member, Committee on Agriculture



U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

DEC | 3 1995

The Honorable Lee Hamilton Ranking Member Committee on International Relations House Of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hamilton:

As you are aware, authority to sign new agreements under the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (P.L. 480 or Food for Peace) currently expires at the end of this calendar year.

Food for Peace is a vital portion of our assistance portfolio. Of particular concern to the U.S. Agency for International Development would be the inability to execute agreements with private voluntary organizations or international organizations such as the World Food Program for emergency programs.

I am aware that you are considering legislation to extend P.L. 480 authorities and USDA's Food for Progress authority into calendar 1996. The U.S. Agency for International Development supports this proposed extension and commends you for your attention to this vital program. I understand a similar letter is being sent to you by Secretary Dan Glickman.

The Office of Management and Budget has no objection to the submission of this report to Congress from the standpoint of the Administration's program. Similar letters have been sent to Chairman Benjamin Gilman and Chairman Pat Roberts and Ranking Member E (Kika) de la Garza of the House Committee on Agriculture.

Sincerely,

Trie Gereof

J. Brian Atwood

320 TWENTY-FIRST STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20523

26



U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



DEC | 3 1995

The Honorable Benjamin A. Gilman Chairman Committee on International Relations House Of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Gilman:

As you are aware, authority to sign new agreements under the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (P.L. 480 or Food for Peace) currently expires at the end of this calendar year.

Food for Peace is a vital portion of our assistance portfolio. Of particular concern to the U.S. Agency for International Development would be the inability to execute agreements with private voluntary organizations or international organizations such as the World Food Program for emergency programs.

I am aware that you are considering legislation to extend P.L. 480 authorities and USDA's Food for Progress authority into calendar 1996. The U.S. Agency for International Development supports this proposed extension and commends you for your attention to this vital program. I understand a similar letter is being sent to you by Secretary Dan Glickman.

The Office of Management and Budget has no objection to the submission of this report to Congress from the standpoint of the Administration's program. Similar letters have been sent to Ranking Member Lee Hamilton and Chalrman Pat Roberts and Ranking Member E (Kika) de la Garza of the House Committee on Agriculture.

Sincerely,

J. Brian Atwood

320 TWENTY-FIRST STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20523

ISBN 0-16-052239-0

9 780160 522390

